

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 199701735

Date: November 7, 2005

Notice No. 05-67

Closing Date: December 6, 2005

1. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

2. APPLICANT:

PennDOT District 2-0 1924-30 Daisy Street P.O. Box 42 Clearfield, PA 16830

- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: across the Clarion River and in adjacent wetlands, the West Branch Clarion River and Johnson Run and in adjacent wetlands in Johnsonburg, Elk County, Pennsylvania.
- 4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant is proposing to construct two sections, C10 and D10, of a 1.5 miles roadway bypass along State Route 0219 around the Borough of Johnsonburg. Currently, S.R. 0219 runs through the center of operations of a paper mill. This bypass will improve safety and traffic flow and will separate local traffic and heavy truck traffic associated with the paper mill. The selected alternative is a result of extensive coordination between PennDOT, Citizen's Advisory Committee, local officials, the paper mill staff, the general public, and environmental resources agencies to identify an acceptable alignment that would address safety and traffic issues with minimal environmental impacts. The proposed two and three lane bi-directional bypass will begin on S.R.0219 just north of S.R. 0255 and proceed northwest across the Allegheny and Eastern railroad line, floodplains and the Clarion River. After the Clarion River crossing, it will run parallel to the existing Buffalo and Pittsburgh railroad line to an at-grade intersection with Grant Street. From Grant Street, the alignment will continue northward and cross over the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad and an associated culvert conveying Johnson Run beneath the railroad. The alignment then proceeds in a northern direction over West Center Street, the Allegheny and Eastern Railroad, floodplains and the West Branch of the Clarion River. The alignment then proceeds in a northeastern direction with atgrade intersections at Fairview Avenue and S.R. 4007 (West Main Street) to the northern termini on existing S.R. 0219 adjacent to

the Johnsonburg Jubilee Market Plaza. The project will permanently impact 1.01 acre of palustrine emergent wetlands and temporarily impact 0.04 acre of palustrine emergent wetland in Section C10. There are no wetland impacts in D10. Piers will permanently impact 0.01 acre of the West Branch Clarion River in Section D10. Wetland mitigation will consist of constructing 1.09 acres of replacement wetlands in the floodplain of the Clarion River. Drawings of the proposed project are attached to this notice.

5. <u>ENCROACHMENT PERMIT</u>: The applicant is required to obtain an encroachment permit which includes State 401 Water Quality Certification from the:

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Northwest Regional Office Soils and Waterways Section 230 Chestnut Street Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

Telephone: 814-332-6942

- 6. IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is not likely to affect the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. This Public Notice serves as a request to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).
- 7. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).
- 8. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

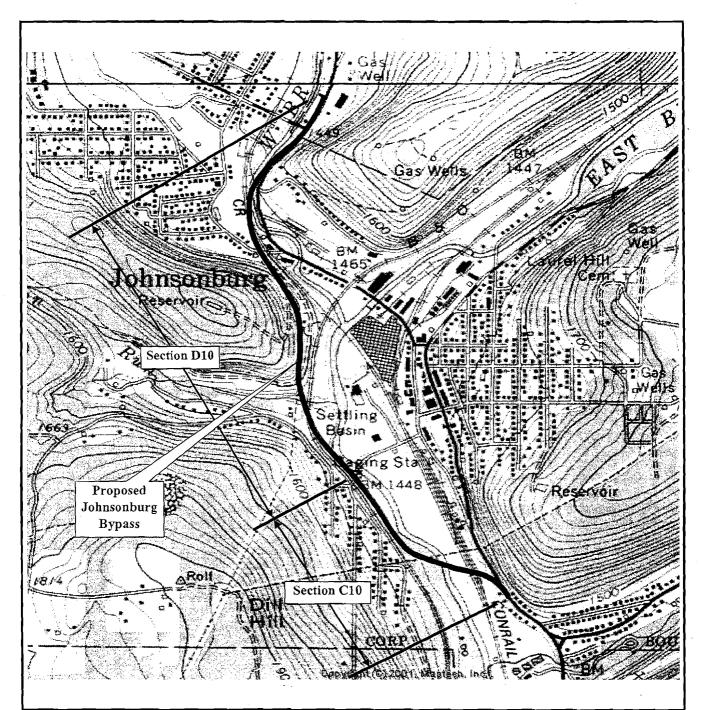
- EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).
- 10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice

CELRP-OP-F Public Notice No. 05-67

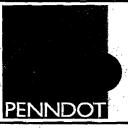
should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Nancy Mullen, at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7170, or by e-mail at Nancy.J.Mullenelrp02.usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 199701735 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

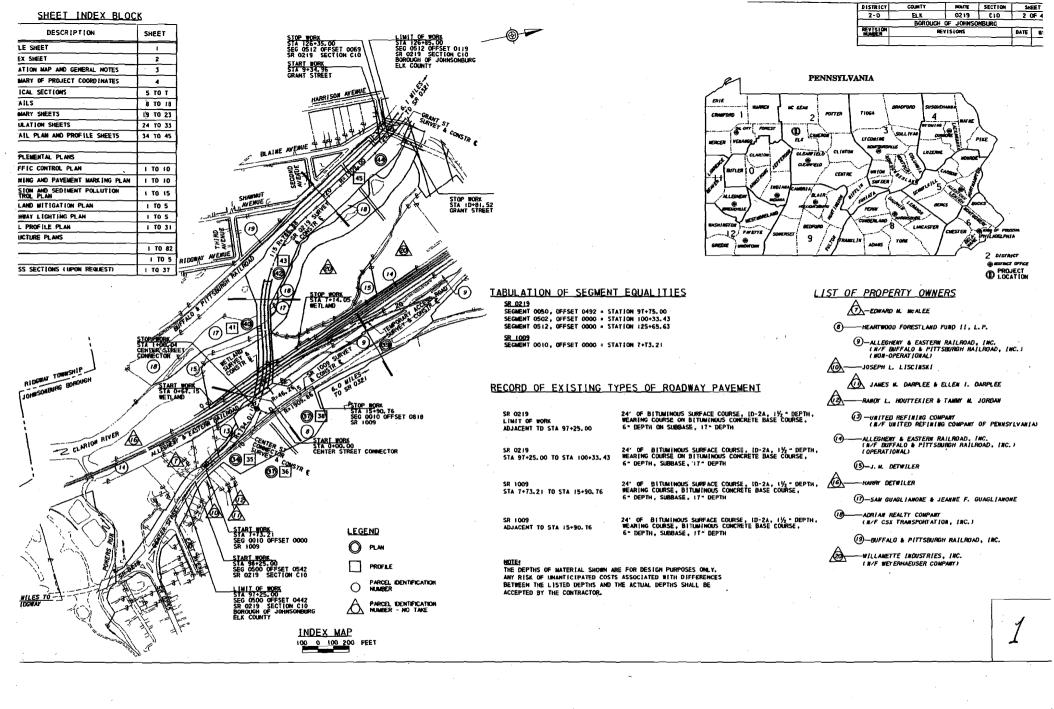
Michael J. Cummings, Jr. Chief, Regulatory Branch

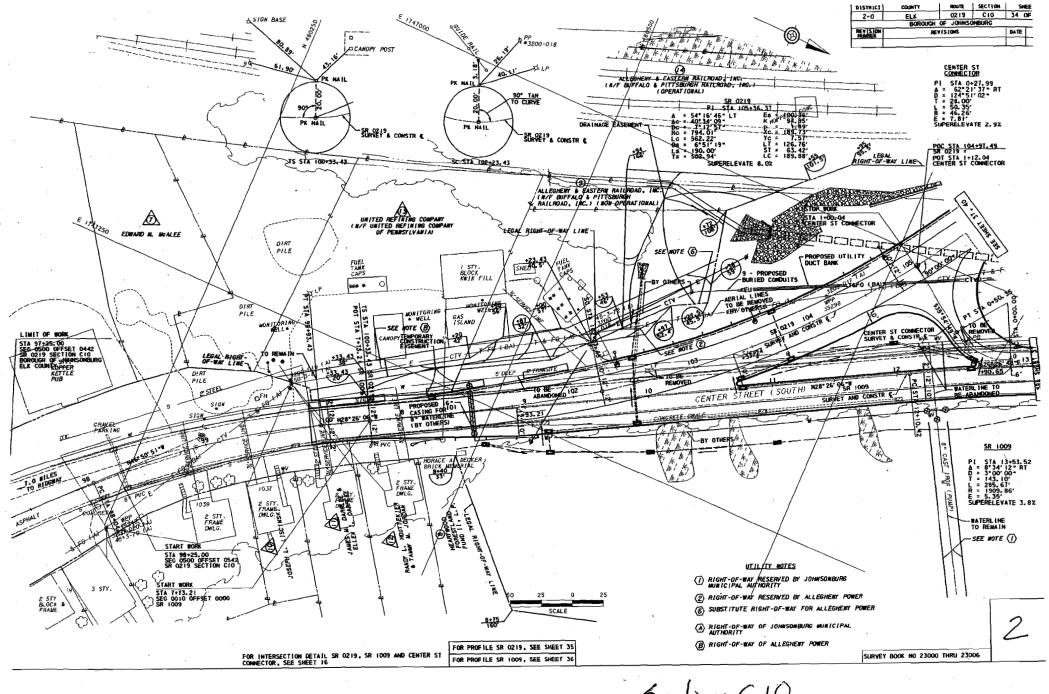


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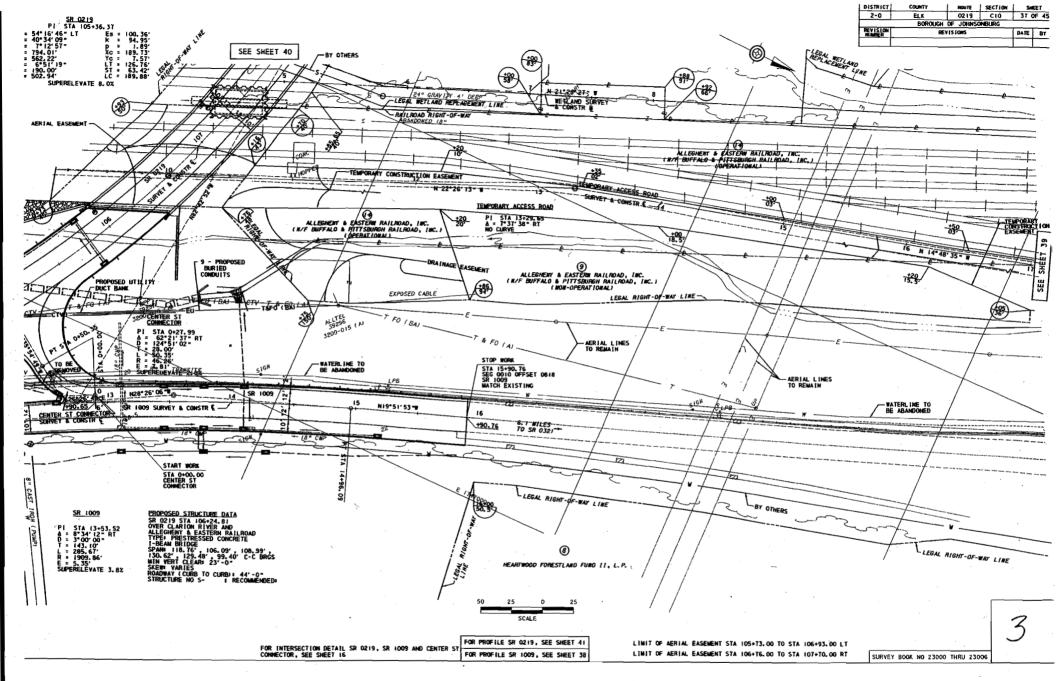
Elk County, Borough of Johnsonburg S. R. 0219 - Sections C10 and D10, Johnsonburg Bypass Ridgway, PA., U. S. G. S. Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series 1969 Edition, Photorevised 1981, Photoinspected 1988





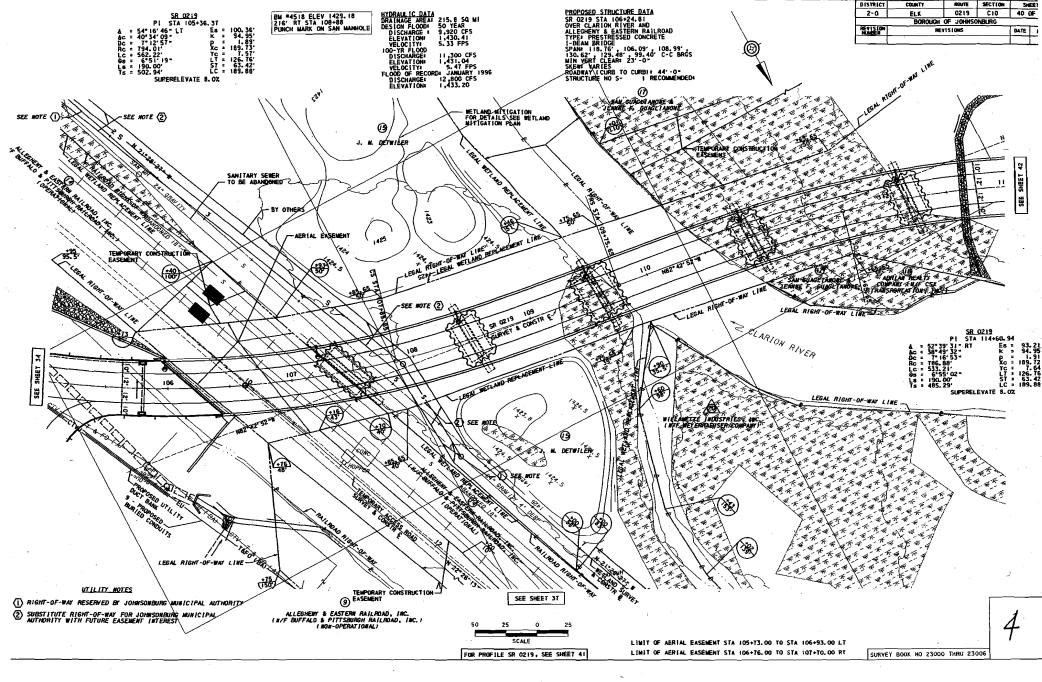
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Setion C10



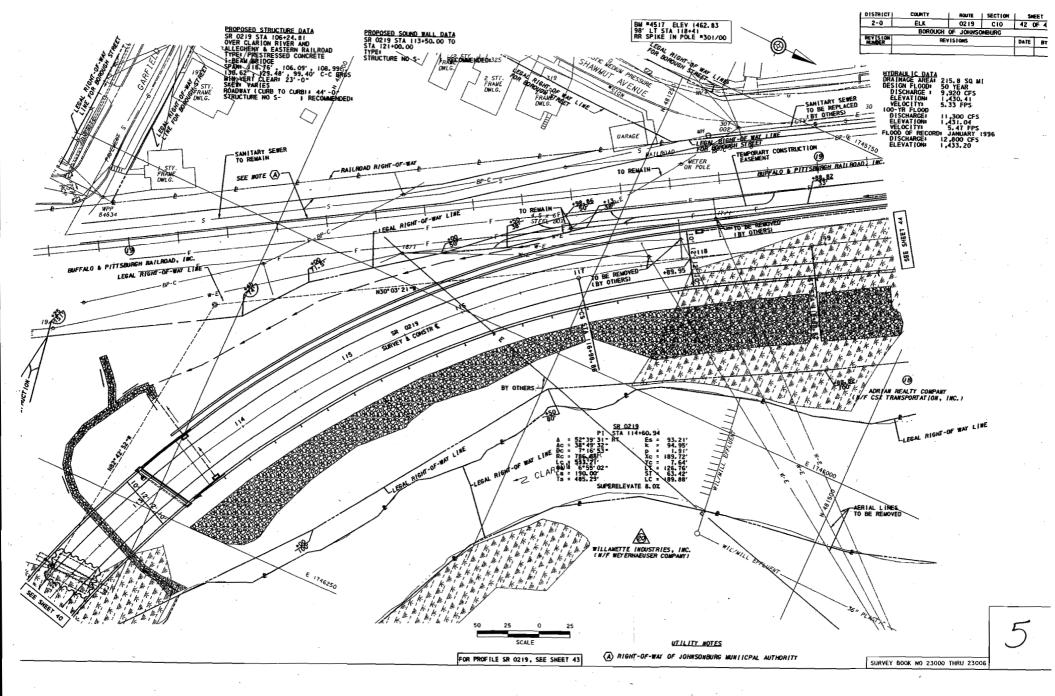
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Section C10



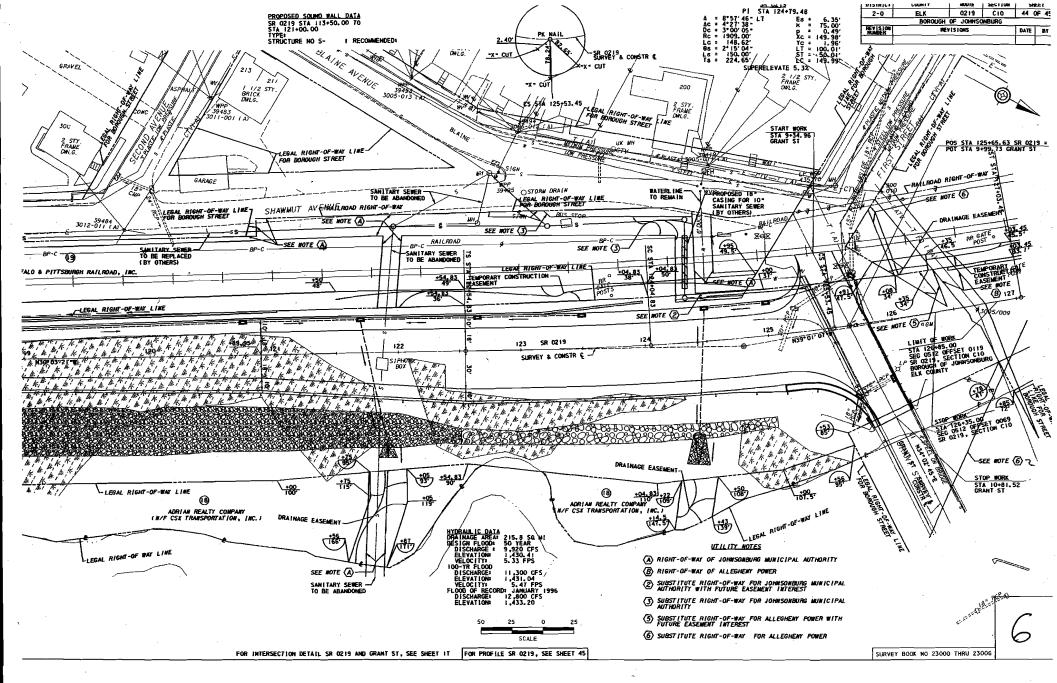
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Section C10



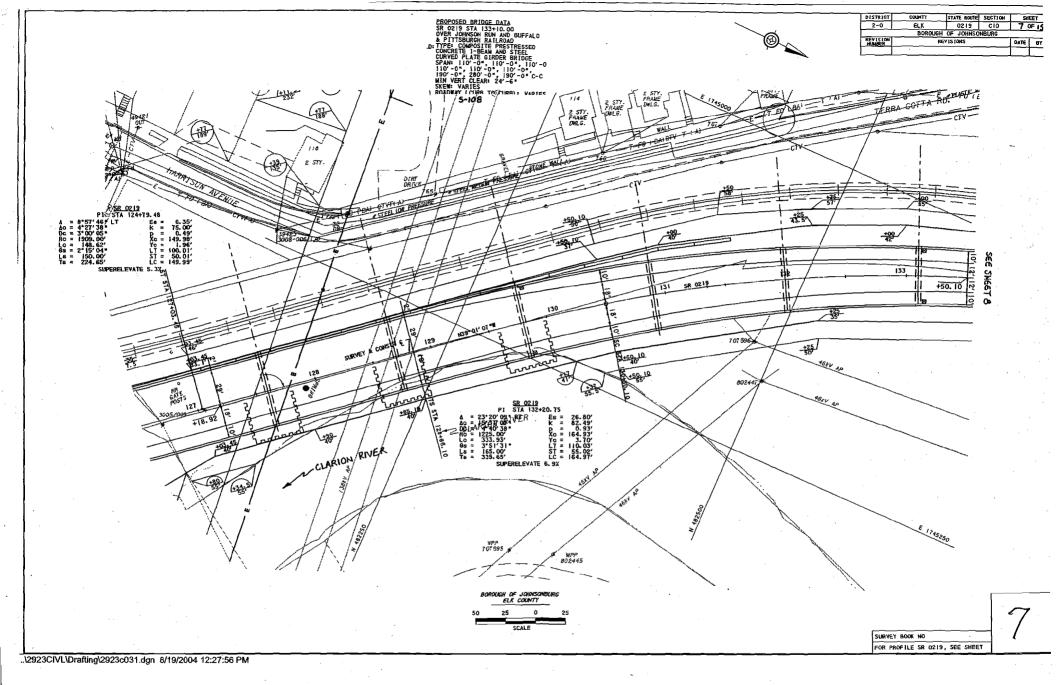
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Section C10



(44) on Sheet 1 199701735

Section CIO

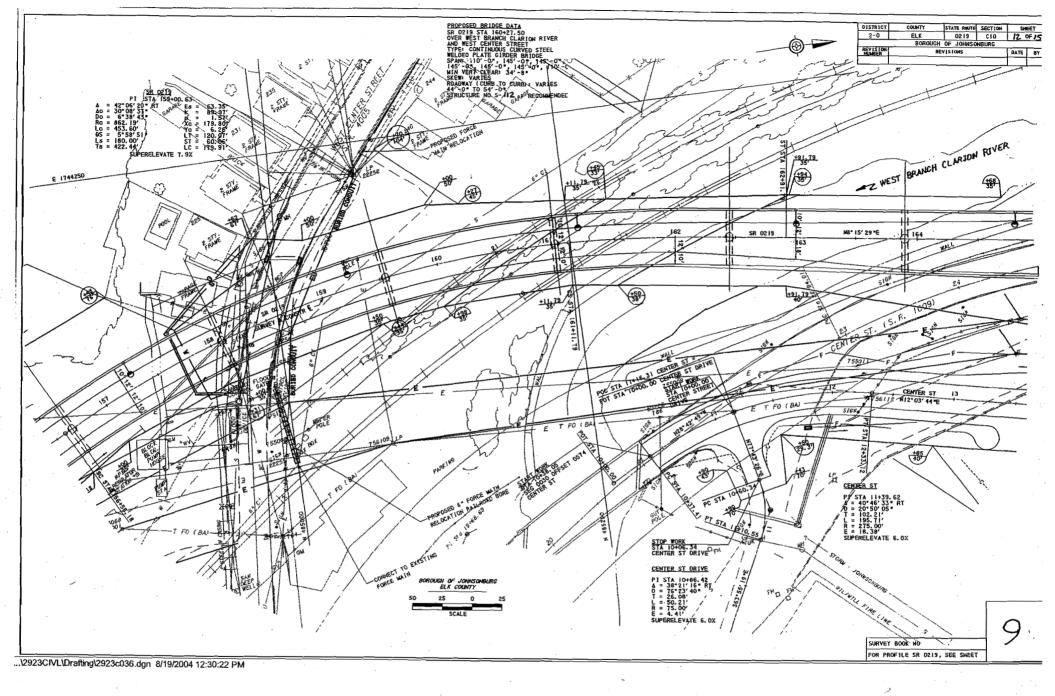


Section DIO

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Section DIO

Figure I Proposed Mitigation Site Location S.R. 0219, Section C10

Borough of Johnsonburg, Elk County, Pennsylvania

